In the Claims

1. (Previously presented) A multiparticulate controlled release selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) formulation for oral administration, which comprises particles of an SSRI selected from the group consisting of fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, and sertraline or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof coated with a rate-controlling polymer which allows controlled release of said SSRI over a period of not less than about 12 hours following oral administration.

2. (Original) A formulation according to Claim 1, wherein the particles are pellets.

3. (Original) A formulation according to Claim 2, wherein said pellets comprise a core of said SSRI or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof coated with said rate-controlling polymer to form a rate-controlling membrane surrounding said core.

4. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 3, wherein the rate-controlling membrane comprises a mixture of a major proportion of a pharmaceutically acceptable film-forming, water-insoluble polymer and a minor proportion of a pharmaceutically acceptable film-forming, water soluble polymer in a selected ratio, the selected ratio of said water-insoluble polymer to said water-soluble polymer being effective to permit a SSRI release rate which allows controlled release of said SSRI over a period of not less than about 12 hours following oral administration.

5. (Original) A formulation according to Claim 4, wherein the rate-controlling membrane contains an ammonio methacrylate co-polymer.

6 to 19. (Cancelled).

20. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 1, wherein the core further comprises an organic acid, the SSRI component and the organic acid being present in a ratio of from 50:1 to 1:50.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 1, wherein the SSRI is fluvoxamine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 1, wherein the SSRI release rate from the particles exhibits the following *in vitro* dissolution pattern when measured using a USP type II dissolution apparatus (paddle) according to US Pharmacopeia XXII in 0.05 M phosphate buffer at pH 6.8:

(a) no more than about 15% of the total SSRI is released after 0.5 of an hour of measurement in said apparatus;

(b) no more than about 25% of the total SSRI is released after 1 hour of measurement in said apparatus;

(c) between about 20% and about 75% of the total SSRI is released after 2 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(d) not less than about 75% of the total SSRI is released after 4 hours of measurement in said apparatus; and

(e) not less than about 85% of the total SSRI is released after 6 hours of measurement in said apparatus.

24. (Currently amended) A formulation according to Claim 1 ~~multiparticulate controlled release selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) formulation for oral administration, comprising particles of an SSRI or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof coated with a rate controlling polymer which allows controlled release of said SSRI over a period of not less than about 12 hours following oral administration~~, wherein the SSRI release rate from the particles exhibits the following *in vitro* dissolution pattern when measured using a USP type II dissolution apparatus (paddle) according to US Pharmacopeia XXII in 0.05 M phosphate buffer at pH 6.8:

(a) no more than about 20% of the total SSRI is released after 4 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(b) no more than about 45% of the total SSRI is released after 6 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(c) between about 45% and 80% of the total SSRI is released after 8

hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(d) not less than about 70% of the total SSRI is released after 10 hours of measurement in said apparatus; and

(e) not less than about 80% of the total SSRI is released after 12 hours of measurement in said apparatus.

25. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 1 in a form suitable for oral administration.

26. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 1 in a form suitable for oral administration and comprising a blend of said particles in admixture with an immediate release form of SSRI or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof to ensure a rapid attainment of effective therapeutic blood levels.

27. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 26, wherein the immediate release form of SSRI comprises pellets.

28. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 25, wherein the SSRI release rate when measured *in vitro* using a USP type II dissolution apparatus (paddle) according to US Pharmacopoeia XXII in 0.05 M phosphate buffer at pH 6.8 substantially corresponds to the following dissolution pattern:

(a) no more than 20% of the total SSRI is released after 1 hour of measurement in said apparatus;

(b) no more than 60% of the total SSRI is released after 2 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(c) not less than 20% of the total SSRI is released after 4 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(d) not less than 35% of the total SSRI is released after 6 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(e) not less than 50% of the total SSRI is released after 8 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(f) not less than 70% of the total SSRI is released after 10 hours of measurement in said apparatus; and

(g) not less than 75% of the total SSRI is released after 12 hours of measurement in said apparatus.

29. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 25, wherein the SSRI release rate from the particles exhibits the following *in vitro* dissolution pattern when measured using a USP type II dissolution apparatus (paddle) according to US Pharmacopeia XXII in 0.05 M phosphate buffer at pH 6.8:

(a) no more than about 20% of the total SSRI is released after 1 hour

of measurement in said apparatus;

(b) no more than about 45% of the total SSRI is released after 2 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(c) between about 20% and about 70% of the total SSRI is released after 4 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(d) between about 35% and about 85% of the total SSRI is released after 6 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(e) not less than about 50% of the total SSRI is released after 8 hours of measurement in said apparatus.

(f) not less than about 70% of the total SSRI is released after 10 hours of measurement in said apparatus; and

(g) not less than about 75% of the total SSRI is released after 12 hours of measurement in said apparatus.

30. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 1, wherein the SSRI release rate from the particles exhibits the following *in vitro* dissolution pattern when measured using a USP type II dissolution apparatus (paddle) according to US Pharmacopeia XXII in 0.05 M phosphate buffer at pH 6.8:

(a) no more than about 50% of the total SSRI is released after 2 hours of measurement in said apparatus;

(b) not less than about 35% of the total SSRI is released after 6 hours of measurement in said apparatus; and

(c) not less than about 80% of the total SSRI is released after 22 hours of measurement in said apparatus.

31. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 4, wherein the core further comprises an organic acid, the SSRI component and the organic acid being present in a ratio of from 50:1 to 1:50.

32. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 5, wherein the core further comprises an organic acid, the SSRI component and the organic acid being present in a ratio of from 50:1 to 1:50.

33. (Previously presented) A method for the treatment of depression or obsessive compulsive disorder treatable with an SSRI, comprising administering to a patient suffering from one of said conditions a therapeutically effective amount of a multiparticulate controlled release SSRI formulation according to Claim 1.

34. (Previously presented) A method for the treatment of depression or obsessive compulsive disorder treatable with an SSRI, comprising administering to a patient suffering from one of said conditions a

therapeutically effective amount of a multiparticulate controlled release SSRI formulation according to Claim 25.

35. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 3, wherein the rate-controlling membrane comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable film-forming, water-insoluble polymer in an amount effective to obtain a controlled release of a SSRI over a period of not less than about 12 hours following oral administration.

36. (Previously presented) The formulation according to Claim 1, wherein said rate controlling polymer is SSRI-permeable.

37. (Previously presented) The formulation according to Claim 1, wherein said rate controlling polymer is SSRI-permeable and water soluble.

38. (Previously presented) The formulation according to Claim 1, wherein said rate controlling polymer is SSRI-permeable and water insoluble.

39. (Previously presented) The formulation according to Claim 25, wherein said formulation is in capsule form.

40. (Previously presented) The formulation according to Claim 25, wherein said formulation is in tablet form.

41. (Previously presented) The formulation according to Claim 24, wherein said SSRI is fluoxetine.

42. (Currently amended) The formulation according to Claim 24, wherein said SSRI is ~~fluovoxamine~~ fluvoxamine.

43. (Previously presented) The formulation according to Claim 24, wherein said SSRI is paroxetine.

44. (Previously presented) The formulation according to Claim 24, wherein said SSRI is sertraline.

45. (Previously presented) A method for the treatment of depression or obsessive compulsive disorder treatable with an SSRI, comprising administering to a patient suffering from one of said conditions a therapeutically effective amount of a multiparticulate controlled release SSRI formulation according to Claim 24.

46. (Previously presented) The formulation according to Claim 24, wherein said formulation is in tablet form.

47. (Currently amended) A multiparticulate controlled release selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) formulation for oral administration, which comprises particles of an SSRI selected from the group consisting of fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, paroxetine, and sertraline or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof coated with a rate-controlling polymeric acrylate or methacrylate lacquer substance which allows controlled release of said SSRI over a period of not less than about 12 hours following oral administration.

48. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 47 wherein said substance is said acrylate lacquer.

49. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 47 wherein said substance is said methacrylate lacquer.

50. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 47 wherein said substance is a lacquer which contains a mixture of said acrylate and methacrylate.

51. (Previously presented) A formulation according to Claim 47 wherein said substance is an acrylic resin comprising a copolymer of acrylic and methacrylic acid esters having a low content of quaternary ammonium groups.

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Currently amended) A formulation according to Claim ~~52~~ 47 wherein said SSRI is fluvoxamine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

54. (New) A multiparticulate controlled release selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) formulation for oral administration, which comprises particles of an SSRI or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof coated with a rate-controlling polymer which allows controlled release of said SSRI over a period of not less than about 12 hours following oral administration.